

Donga Speak

Our words need
our thoughts.

A Letter to the Family.

We want to create a self-sustaining, non-motor-vehicle oriented, nomadic culture, leading a sound practical existence. To create another alternative way of life, which is an integral part of the existing alternative movement. As Nomads we come into contact with many people, communities and land-owners. We carry the message to them, learn from them, influence them and sow seeds for the future where ever we tread. We have already lived this way for some time, travelling with horses, donkeys, bike-carts, handcarts and goats.

We want to be self-sufficient in the main working for money or bartering our wares where necessary.

We want to learn traditional crafts that are rooted in the land, sustainable both for ourselves and us.

We want to re-educate ourselves and others in natural things and natural ways. This knowledge along with this land is our birthright and has been denied us.

We want to learn from other tribes past and present around the globe, trying to understand their outlooks and "stealing" and adopting their techniques to enhance our life style.

We want to re-trace our roots from our ancient ancestors of this and surrounding countries who once lived simple but fruitful lives, close to nature, in times of peace and good will.

We want to celebrate in the ancient places at the appointed times of the year to bring life and positive energy to the land as our ancestors did.

We want to make settlements up and down the land connected by roads, routes and an air trackway.

We want to create a way of life to join settlers, semi-nomadic and nomadic people together in one large community, living minimal input, sustainable and largely self-sufficient lives, within this democratic society and its laws where ever possible. Self supported by the lands of the settlements, our own skills and crafts, the harvests of the hedge rows, semi-nomadic herding and interaction with local communities.

We want to see groups, tribes and clans spread across the countryside with common hopes and desires, coming together at the ancient times to swap skills, wares and ideas, and celebrate the land, each independent yet an integral part of one organism.

We want inter-tribe, experience and growth. Join us for a few days, weeks or incarnations. We all need to learn from each other and teach others what we have learned.

This path we have felt it necessary to take will not suit everyone, nor alone solve all the global problems, but no one can. We must all work together in our own different ways, knowing that no one way is the true path and that many paths can lead to the same goal. One alternative way of life will not suit all, but all can work and interact together as one. Many ways are now being trodden, our path is but one.

Our own tribal structure began with the communal border, a large space open to all and evolved to include personal dwellings to allow people their own spaces and lives whilst still living in a fluid and communal way. We live, eat, work and play music together everyone contributing where they can. The communal is still the centre of our village and a facility for overnight stops, a few voices visit or to live in permanently, although many bring their own structures or tents. We hold gatherings regularly to promote creativity, interaction, new ideas and celebration with music and circles to express our ideas and hear those of others.

The New/old way of life we are trying to create cannot survive as a separate entity. It must be an integral part of the whole movement, to have any chance to grow and bear fruit.

Without external input we will grow insular and stagnate, so far thanks to our extended family this has not happened, but it may be due to our own failure of communication that it has been necessary to write this article.

Because these within our community hold similar ideals, hopes and dreams; we assume others do too, thus many important issues remain unvoiced and no understanding and remove fill the void. This is why we now feel the need to speak out.

We all have common aims, we must stand together, work together and celebrate together. We must step into the next Millennium as one, if our culture is to have a positive lasting effect upon the worlds problems.

We all need each others support. In the land, on the land, with the land!!!

Passing by various
Circles, Autumn 15.
Wong
Tribe

NOTE: only representative of one piece of Donga people, not all.